

Richard W. Henderson House
Thornton Hill and Western Rds.
Not accessible
1840

This house bears a datestone with the initials MPK and the date 1840. This corresponds to the ownership of the property by Mordecai H. and Philema Matthews. The stone house is situated on early land grants known as Taylor's String and Taylor's Discovery, all owned by the builder's father, Mordecai Matthews. It is a substantial but traditional house, with touches of Greek revival only in its detailing. Only a stone spring house remains of the many out-buildings required to support rural life.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Richard W. Henderson House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Thornton Mill and Western Roads

CITY, TOWN

Sparks

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES RESTRICTED☐ YES UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Richard W. Henderson

Telephone #: 771-4731

STREET & NUMBER

Western Road

CITY, TOWN

Sparks

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Md. 21152

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Liber #: 4979

Folio #: 300

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Baltimore County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Pawson

STATE

Md.

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

6A-86

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Henderson House is a two and one-half storey stone house, five bays in length, its principal facade to the north. Extending south behind its east end, with east walls flush and of continuous construction, is a three-storey stone kitchen wing, three bays in length, with a shed roof perpendicular to the main house. Its taller wall is its easterly and its eave aligns with that of the main house. Brick chimneys rise flush above each gable of the main house and a third rises a little east of center, flush with the south wall of the rear wing. Three dormers are in the front or northerly roof slope, one in the rear. A one-storey hipped-roof porch with square wooden columns shelters the north front and a one-storey shed-roofed porch shelters the west side of the kitchen wing. A small one-storey shed-roofed glazed porch of contemporary design, with a stone chimney at its west end, extends west from the kitchen wing.

At the base of the brick chimney in the west gable is a carved marble datestone:

M. P. M.
1840

The principal entrance is centered in the north front; it consists of a two-panel door, 4/4 sidelights and a transom, all set within paneled jambs, trimmed externally with engaged Tuscan columns.

Typical windows in other bays are 6/6 with narrow beaded frames,

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES	1840	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	Unknown
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house, located just south of the intersection of Western and Thornton Mill Roads, bears a datestone reading:

MPM
1840

The date corresponds to the ownership of the property by Mordecai H. Matthews and his wife, Philema. (The Quaker manner of dating houses frequently included the first initials of both husband and wife).

The property is situated on the early grants known as Taylor's String and Taylor's Discovery and was owned by Mordecai Matthews, according to the 1798 Federal Tax Assessment. Mordecai H. Matthews, his son, acquired the land through his father's will in 1830. In turn, he left the land and the house, called the Homestead, to his son, Alfred, in his will of 1873.

In 1879, Alfred Matthews lost the property as a result of his default on a mortgage. It passed through the hands of several owners, including the Ensor family, until purchased in 1969 by the present residents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Henderson, who have established a horse-breeding farm here.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hopkins, G.M. Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. (Philadelphia, 1877).

Sidney, J.C. Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland. Baltimore, 1850).

Baltimore County Tax Assessments: 1876, 1896.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 94A

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Catharine F. Black and James T. Wollon, Jr. AIA

ORGANIZATION

For Valleys Historical District Project

DATE

September 1976

STREET & NUMBER

1114 Bellemore Road

TELEPHONE

323-3798

CITY OR TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Md.

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

Continuation Sheet #1

Question #7 Description Continued

louvred blinds, marble sills and roughly-worked stone lintels.

Internally, a central hall is flanked by two rooms on each side. The principal stair rises at the south end of the central hall, with intermediate landings, to the third floor. Its round walnut rail is supported by a walnut newel in the form of a Doric column, and by tiger-maple round tapered balusters. Chair railing in the hall is modern but the plaster cornice is probably original. Corner-block trim surrounds openings.

The westerly rooms are joined by a wide doorway, formally with a pair of hinged doors. Matching mantels are of black marble; they consist of plain pilasters supporting a plain frieze. Corner-block trim surrounds all openings; window reveals extend to the floor and jambs are paneled. A plaster cornice surrounds each ceiling.

The easterly rooms are slightly simpler, where mantels are of wood, similarly designed, the corner-block trim is simpler and only a single door links the rooms.

The second floor plan is identical to the first and, predictably, trim is like the simpler easterly rooms below. The third floor is finished as two rooms.

The kitchen occupies the two southerly bays of the rear wing; its fireplace is a modern replacement of the original. A back stairway rises from the northeast corner of the kitchen. Two plain rooms are in the second storey and a single room is in the third, where the

(See Continuation Sheet #2)

Continuation Sheet #2

Question #7 Description Continued

sloping roof allows minimal headroom along the east side only. Split lathe fastened with cut nails is exposed in the third storey of the kitchen wing.

A one and one-half storey stone springhouse stands east of the dwelling. Its westerly roof slope extends over the west wall to shelter the doorway to the lower storey; a door to the upper storey is high in the south gable and a small ventilating window is below it.

0301905435 BA-186

1. STATE <u>Maryland</u> COUNTY <u>Baltimore</u> TOWN <u>Western Run</u> VICINITY <u>Dist. VIII</u> STREET NO. <u>Thornton Mill Road</u> ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE PRESENT OWNER PRESENT USE WALL CONSTRUCTION NO. OF STORIES		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY <u>BA-186</u> 2. NAME <u>Thornton Hill Farm</u> DATE OR PERIOD <u>1840</u> STYLE ARCHITECT BUILDER 3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC <p>Fieldstone house, with stone chimney marker giving the date. Pine interior woodwork -- paneling and circular staircase. Owners, Mr. & Mrs. Cornelius V. Roe.</p> <p>same house as #186-190</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(second HABS report) E. Frances Offutt HABS COMMITTEE OF BALTIMORE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY March 20, 1968</p>			
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered Interior Exterior			
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)		7. PHOTOGRAPH	
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.		9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER DATE OF RECORD	

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE